



Kentucky Adult Learner Initiative Working Group on Flexible Academic Programming

Some Samples of Programs in throughout the U.S.

(There are many examples of flexible adult learning programs in universities across the nation. Below is a sample of some of the unique programs available for adults.)

California State University San Marcos: Program for Adult College Education

The Program for Adult College Education (PACE) is an upper-division program for working students and those who cannot take daytime classes. Students complete a four-year degree by taking primarily evening courses. A limited number of early morning, Saturday, and/or on-line courses are also available for PACE students. PACE classes are the same as those taken by students pursuing their degrees through the traditional university format. PACE students are entitled to priority registration.

Students can progress through their studies at their own pace and are not required to complete a minimum number of units each semester. For full-time working students wanting to accelerate their degree program, PACE students can complete their upper-division requirements in two years by taking 3-4 courses each fall and spring semester, as well as summer school courses.

DePaul University and Harry S. Truman City College, Chicago -- The Bridge Program

DePaul's Bridge program has been helping adult learners make a smooth transition from Harry S. Truman City College to the four-year university for the last 15 years. Its unique approach to instruction, student advising and financial aid has made it a success with traditionally underserved populations of Illinois. The program prepares students in the city college setting until they are ready to transition over to DePaul, allowing students to take classes at the two-year Truman College, taught by both Truman and DePaul faculty, while earning credits toward a bachelor's degree from DePaul's School for New Learning. The program also provides intensive academic, professional and personal advising that follows each student until they have successfully crossed the bridge and received their degree from DePaul. Not only are Bridge students learning from the experience of having two instructors teaching a course together, but also the

team-teaching method allows faculty from both institutions to learn from each other.

The program provides a unique financial incentive to students as well. While on the Truman side of the Bridge, students pay Truman's community college tuition while earning DePaul credits. Students spend eight weeks taking courses at Truman and eight weeks at DePaul each semester. Students work on their own timetable and complete the program at their own pace.

University of Louisiana at Monroe, Gateway to Online Degrees (GOLD) Program

ULM's program, Gateway to Online Degrees (GOLD), targets adult learners. GOLD is a clearinghouse for all of ULM's online degrees; it enables nontraditional students to utilize the convenience and accessibility of online learning in an accelerated mode. One such degree is the online bachelors of science in health studies with a concentration in marketing/ management. According to the Louisiana Labor Department, nearly 30,000 health services positions need to be filled in this state by the end of 2010. The online health studies degree will prepare professionals for mid-level management positions in a variety of health care organizations and increase the capabilities of our state's workforce.

Other GOLD degree programs include bachelor of general studies, business concentration; bachelor of general studies, social science concentration; associate of general studies; master of arts in gerontology; and master of arts in criminal justice.

University of New Mexico -- The Graduation Project

The Graduation Project is a program designed to help students who have left the University of New Mexico in good standing after completing at least 98 hours who would now like return to the university to finish their bachelor's degree. To qualify for the Graduation Project, students must:

- Have stopped out for at least one semester
- Have at least a 2.0 GPA
- Have completed 98 hours, with at least 30 completed at UNM.

Students who qualify for the program are eligible to receive the following benefits:

- A special, short re-admissions application designed specifically for the program
- A progress report to help students determine which classes they need to graduate
- Priority enrollment in "over-enrolled" classes
- Monthly tuition payments
- Tuition Assistance: Students with a GPA of 2.5 or above automatically qualify for the Regents Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), which awards a

tuition credit of up to 50% of tuition, not to exceed \$1,000 per academic year for two years.

UNM Extended University Distance Education Programs create access to UNM courses for students who cannot come to UNM main campus or choose to take classes in alternative formats. Distance Education Programs provide expanded learning opportunities to help students obtain their degree. Students can take classes online, through interactive television, via correspondence, or face-to-face at centers located in the following areas: Farmington, Gallup, Hobbs, Kirtland Air Force Base, Los Alamos, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Taos, and Valencia.

Degree completion programs are offered in:

ANDERSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

- Bachelor of Business Administration

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Science in Education
- Elementary
- Secondary
- Early Childhood & Multicultural Education (ECME)
- Master of Arts in Education
- Elementary (Licensure available)
- Secondary (Licensure available)
- Organizational Learning & Instructional Technology (OLIT)
- Educational Leadership

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

- Bachelor of Fine Arts - Studio

COLLEGE OF NURSING

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing
- PhD in Nursing

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- Master of Public Administration

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

- Bachelor of Science
- Computer Science (Los Alamos only)
- Master of Science
- Chemical Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computer Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

- Bachelor of University Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Native American Studies

North Carolina Wesleyan College Adult Degree Program

The Wesleyan Adult Degree Program (ADP) is a nonresidential baccalaureate degree program designed to meet the educational needs of adult students. ADP allows mature women and men to tailor their degree work to meet personal, career, and life goals. Students work at their own pace with the option of maintaining full-time or part-time course loads. Because mature adults are highly motivated and capable of self-directed learning, ADP students can take advantage of non-accelerated and accelerated classes, as well as opportunities for earning credit through alternative options.

The Adult Degree Program serves the Wesleyan adult student body in three geographical regions: the Triangle, Goldsboro, and Rocky Mount. Information sessions for persons interested in ADP are held regularly at each location.

Adult students can choose from a number of course formats, i.e., weekend, 5-week, 8-week, 12-week, and online education. Courses are offered in an accelerated or non-accelerated format. Accelerated courses meet one night a week for four hours over five or eight weeks. Based on the course, non-accelerated courses may meet one or two nights a week, with many of the courses meeting up to three hours per night. The course schedule for each ADP location will adequately describe the number of hours per week required for the course, as well as the total time commitment.

University of Oklahoma -- OUTREACH

The University of Oklahoma's OUTREACH is the umbrella for the OU College of Continuing Education and College of Liberal Studies. This lifelong learning organization is dedicated to helping individuals, businesses, groups and communities around the world transform themselves through knowledge.

Nationally recognized for its pioneering efforts in continuing education, CCE extends the educational resources of the University through more than thirty different program formats, including undergraduate and graduate degree programs, correspondence and other distance programs, and on- and off-campus courses as well as through a wide variety of programs conducted under the auspices of federal and state grants and contracts. On the Norman campus, adult and other learners attend programs at the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, one of eleven W. K. Kellogg Foundation-funded, University-based residential conference centers in the world. Annually, CCE offers some 2,000 courses and activities to more than 250,000 nontraditional learners in Oklahoma and in locations all over the world.

- **Distance Learning:** CCE offers a variety of credit and noncredit distance learning courses and programs within the state of Oklahoma and beyond.
- **Media:** Courses are delivered via television, videotapes, videoconferencing, interactive television, audiotapes, audioconferencing,

computer software, CD-ROM, computer conferencing, World Wide Web, e-mail, and print. Students and faculty members may meet in person or interact via videoconferencing, audioconferencing, mail, telephone, fax, e-mail, interactive television, or World Wide Web.

- **Programs:** A variety of programs are available in various distance formats. Independent study courses (credit and noncredit)—some of which are offered online—are available in the following subjects: anthropology, astronomy, business administration, business communication, chemistry, Chinese, classical culture, communication, drama, economics, education, engineering, English, finance, French, geography, geology, German, Greek, health and sport sciences, history, human relations, journalism and mass communication, Latin, library and information studies, management, marketing, mathematics, modern languages, music, philosophy, political science, psychology, Russian, sociology, and Spanish.
- **Special Programs:** CCE offers a number of distance learning special programs. Among these are the DHS/SATTRN (Satellite Training Network) programs held for Oklahoma Department of Human Services and other state employees. CCE's Independent Study Department works closely with the DANTES program and the Navy College PACE program.
- **Credit Options:** CCE's Independent Study Department provides students various options to earn credit through testing. Among these are the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), DANTES, and institutionally developed advanced-standing examinations.

University of Wisconsin -- Distance Learning Wisconsin

The University of Wisconsin System institutions offer undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs via distance education. There are more than 1,000 distance learning courses and degree and certificate programs on Distance Learning Wisconsin all offered from the University of Wisconsin institutions.

Distance learning is a planned teaching/learning experience in which teacher and students are separated by physical distance for all or a majority of the course instruction. Those who teach may choose from a variety of distance education delivery methods/technologies including online, videoconference, print, and other media.

Distance learning courses can be either asynchronous (no set class time or day of the week), or synchronous (classes meet at a specified date and time), or a combination of the two. Courses may be delivered completely by distance learning technologies with no traditional face-to-face classroom instruction, or they may require campus visits. The course descriptions on this site contain information about campus visit requirements for each course.

University of Wisconsin at Green Bay

Long before many institutions were even considering how to serve adult learners, the University of Wisconsin Green Bay's Adult Degree Program was providing adult students in Northeast Wisconsin with the opportunity to earn their bachelor's degree at times and in ways that understood and respected the busy lives of working adults. For 30 years, the Adult Degree Program has helped adult learners to achieve their goals and dreams of a college education. With classes offered on weekends and on the internet, this program is unique in Wisconsin and offers students the chance to take classes on Saturday mornings or afternoons at UW-Green Bay and at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, as well as through the Internet. Ease of access means that busy adults can earn a University of Wisconsin bachelor's degree, and can do it in a way that allows them to maintain work and family responsibilities.